January-April 2017

FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

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STAR
VOLUNTEERS
OFTHE
MONTH

The 4-Hour Gift Reminder

May's Recognition Luncheon





As a Foster Grandparent I pledge to share today, shape tomorrow and leave a positive footprint for the future of children and senior citizens throughout the Peninsula.

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

What an opportunity to see a new year! A time to review, reflect and prepare for new goals, new hopes and new dreams. I encourage us all to look forward with a grateful heart and a rejuvenated desire to serve others. The work we do as the Peninsula Foster Grandparent **Program** is truly remarkable invaluable. and The support, guidance and encouragement you provide young people makes a lasting impression and a difference in our communities. Our pledge to "share today, shape tomorrow and leave a positive footprint for the future of children and senior citizens throughout the Peninsula" is more than just words, it truly expresses our desire and commitment to leave a legacy that brings about change for the better.

As President Barrack Obama said, "change only happens when ordinary people get involved, get engaged and come together...not to score points or take credit but to make people's lives better." I believe we can.

Most Sincerely,

Gina

Gina L. Lewis

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

To Annie Clark and Joanette
Gholston for being selected as
February's
STAR VOLUNTEERS OF THE
MONTH.

Children and Society, As A Whole, Benefits From Interacting With Seniors.

We often discuss the benefits of the elderly population interacting with youth, but let's discuss other ways it is beneficial as well...

BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN

In schools where older adults were a regular fixture, children had more improved reading scores compared to their peers at other schools. Interacting with older adults enables youth to develop social networks, communication skills. problem-solving abilities, **positive** attitudes toward aging, a sense of community purpose and service.

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Dates to Remember:

Upcoming In-Service and Meetings

March 8th PAA Forum CNU

Lunch Will Not Be Provided

April 21st
In-Service Meeting

Northampton Community Center



Continued... Youth involved in intergenerational mentoring programs are <u>46% less likely</u> to begin using illegal drugs, <u>27% less likely to begin using alcohol</u>, and <u>52% less likely to skip school</u>. Children and youth gain <u>positive role models</u> with whom they can interact on a regular basis.

BENEFITS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Intergenerational programs <u>bring together diverse groups and networks</u> and help dispel inaccurate and negative stereotypes. Children, youth, and older adults are less alienated while <u>the community recognizes that they can be contributing members of society</u>. Intergenerational community service programs can <u>multiply human resources</u> by engaging older adults and youth as volunteers in different types of opportunities and populations. Intergenerational programs promote the transmission of cultural traditions and values from older to younger generations, helping to <u>build a sense of personal and societal identity</u> <u>while encouraging tolerance</u>. Connecting our wisest and newest generations is something that we at Senior Lifestyle feel honored to do for our residents, the students, and society. We encourage everyone to find out how they can get involved with intergenerational programming as well!



Theme Colors: Red

REMINDER: The 4-Hour Gift

Last May, as appreciation for service to the Foster Grandparent Program, each <u>active</u> volunteer was awarded 4-hours of personal leave time. The expiration date to use this award is quickly approaching. Please keep in mind that the time must be arranged with your site supervisor and used before 3/30/2017.

Happy Birthday



To all the Foster Grandparent Volunteers who celebrate a birthday in January, February or March!

Register Today!!! Register Today!!! Register Today!!!

FGP's March In-Service

Tuesday, March 8, 2017 from 8am – 12:15 pm Christopher Newport University

Mandatory meeting...Lunch will not be provided

Call 727-1857 to register for this in-service. Limited Transportation available!

Peninsula Foster Grandparent Program Staff

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